

her graduation, served as a briefing attorney for the Texas Attorney General and in private practice in Dallas.

Lillian came to Washington 15 years ago to work on the Hill, and has served in the offices of many of our dear friends and colleagues. Lillian first worked as press secretary and then Chief of Staff to Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson. With Congresswoman Johnson, Congressman Jesse Jackson, Jr., and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Legal Defense Fund, Lillian helped organize a historic bus tour throughout the south to highlight the impact of the Supreme Court's decision in *Shaw v. Reno* (1993) on voting rights and minority districts. Lillian went on to serve as the Legislative Director for Congresswoman Barbara Rose Collins, with whom she worked to draft several amendments to the 1996 Telecommunications Act to increase minority ownership of commercial broadcasting companies. Lillian continued on as Press Secretary and Chief of Staff for Congressman Alcee Hastings. She organized Vice President Al Gore's first environmental justice site tours of southern Florida's minority communities and brownfield lands, and during the 2000 Presidential election, Lillian served as an area political director for the Gore recount committee. Following the September 11 terrorist attacks, Lillian helped usher through a \$125 million grant to assist the Nation's tourism industry, and she successfully managed the effort to secure the Health Care Financing Administration's approval of the Dean Ornish Program for reversing coronary heart disease. Lillian then served as the Chief of Staff to Congresswoman Sheila Jackson-Lee, where she worked with the Houston community in the wake of Enron's collapse. During the 2002 Florida Governor's race, Lillian worked as the Get-Out-the-Vote director for Miami-Dade County Democrats.

Lillian joined the Judiciary Committee in 2003 and has made numerous contributions to the committee's civil rights, criminal justice, and government oversight work. She helped secure funding for the expansion of the U.S. Marshal Service's Safe Surrender Initiative to seven additional States, including the District of Columbia and my home State of Michigan. She visited the Texas-Mexico border several times to investigate government's response to the high-death tolls and helped with the committee's immigration field hearings in Texas, Michigan, California, and Iowa. She led the House's investigation into the wrongful firing of rail workers under the Transportation Security Administration's Transportation Worker Identification Card program, which ultimately resulted in the reinstatement of 36 workers. She successfully led the Committee's effort to release three inmates wrongfully incarcerated in solitary confinement for 36 years in the Angola Penitentiary in Louisiana, and she and I recently met with Governor Bobby Jindal to discuss the prisoners' final release. She organized committee hearings on FBI whistleblower protections; the Justice Department's role in the Jena Six cases; and voter intimidation during the 2006 elections, which featured then-Senator Barack Obama as a witness.

On behalf of the Judiciary Committee, its staff, and this distinguished body, I would like to thank Lillian for her service. Throughout her time on the Hill, she has been a stalwart voice for social justice and the under-represented. Lillian is a tour-de-force that will be sorely

missed. Her spirit, loyalty, wit, generosity, and professionalism have made all of the offices in which she has worked places to belong and places to thrive. We are losing a dear advisor, mentor, and friend.

We wish her the best of luck and extend to her our deepest gratitude.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE FRED  
BABER FAMILY AS THE 2009  
OKALOOSA FARM FAMILY OF  
THE YEAR

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 14, 2009*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is a great honor for me to rise today to extend congratulations to the Fred Baber family for being selected the 2009 Okaloosa County Farm Family of the Year.

Mr. Fred Baber, the family's patriarch, celebrated his 90th birthday this year, but he still loves to rise before dawn and head out to farm in Laurel Hill, Florida. He is the herd manager for Roger's Ranch and manages 60 head of cattle. In their early days as Ohio farmers, Fred and his brother were pioneers in the fields of artificial insemination (AI) and dairy herd improvement association milk testing (DHIA). Fred brought his advanced knowledge of these techniques to Florida. He also built one of the first Harvester silos in the local area, and was instrumental in bringing the Tampa Independent Dairy Farmers Milk Co-op to the Florida panhandle.

Fred's family is a huge part of his successful farming career. His son Andy helps him run the family farm, producing peanuts, soybeans, and hay. Andy, the oldest of eight Baber children, and his wife Barbara both work at Ruckel Properties. Andy also serves on the Okaloosa County Farm Services Agency Board.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to offer my congratulations to Baber family's tireless work and dedication to family, faith and trade. They are a role model for all of us. My wife Vicki and I wish their entire family best wishes for continued success.

TRIBUTE TO SAN DIEGO POWER  
SURGE 96

**HON. DUNCAN HUNTER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 14, 2009*

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of San Diego Power Surge 96 for its championship victory in the Amateur Softball Association's 2009 Girls National Fastpitch Tournament. The girls of Power Surge 96 competed against some of the most talented and formidable teams in the country—and they did not disappoint their fans. Their national championship victory represents a great accomplishment for not only each team member, but also for the San Diego community.

Over the course of the tournament, Power Surge 96 won a total of nine games to com-

pliment the team's overall and quite impressive record of 92 wins, 7 losses and 1 tie. The team's final matchup turned into a heroic test of endurance and skill after falling behind to their opponent, the SoCal Jynx, early in the game. In the seventh inning, Power Surge 96 tied the score at three, forcing the game into extra innings where they eventually took the lead and never looked back.

On their way to the top, the girls of Power Surge 96 prevailed through a qualifying tournament that included several tough opponents. That tournament, the ASA Southern California State Championship, was the first qualifying victory for any Power Surge team since forming in 1992 and competing at the national level.

In 2009, Power Surge 96 competed in a total of nine tournaments. The team won six of those tournaments outright, sharing a seventh as co-champion. Altogether, 2009 was a great year for the girls of Power Surge 96, highlighted by their national championship victory. Surely, their victory will help motivate them to reach the same level of achievement next year, when they resume competitive play and prepare to defend their national championship.

The girls of Power Surge 96 deserve great credit and recognition for their success and remarkable accomplishment. Their national championship victory, as well as the time they have shared together and hours invested in practice and preparation, is an experience they will always remember. It is an experience that will stay with them well into their adult lives and, hopefully one day, be shared with their children to encourage and inspire them to reach new heights.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to rise in recognition of Power Surge 96 and I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to this team of talented girls. Next year's national championship tournament will not be easy but if there is any group up to the challenge, it is the girls of Power Surge 96.

WIND ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT AND HEAVY  
DUTY HYBRID VEHICLE RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND  
DEMONSTRATION ACT

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 14, 2009*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my support for the Wind Energy Research and Development Act (H.R. 3165) and the Heavy Duty Hybrid Vehicle Research, Development and Demonstration Act (H.R. 445). I thank my colleagues on the Science and Technology Committee for their work on these important bills, which will help secure America's role as a global leader in innovation.

An aggressive transition to a clean renewable energy economy is necessary to modernize America's economy for the 21st century. In this historic moment, we have the responsibility and the opportunity to secure America's place as a global hub of technological innovation, an economic leader, and a steward of our planet. Passage of H.R. 3165 and H.R. 445 will focus American ingenuity to achieve these important goals.